Proposed Parks Master Plan Phase II

Quality of Life Committee
August 26, 2015
Introduction

• Our purpose in presenting the plan today is to provide a high-level overview of the **Proposed Parks Master Plan Phase II**

• Phase II is an expansion of the current Parks Master Plan adopted by City Council in April 2008

• Phase II was developed to align with the 21 Park Sectors that are included in the Open Space Ordinance

• Phase II will become a part of the City’s General Plan

• HPARD will request City Council adopt the Proposed Parks Master Plan Phase II in September 2015
Purpose of the Parks Master Plan

• To identify, assess, and prioritize park and recreational facility and land needs by Park Sector

• To serve as a guide for decision-making for expanding and improving the parks system

• To provide equitable distribution of park space for all communities

• To provide parks and green spaces for citizens within a half mile or within a ten minute walk from their residence
Parks Master Plan Partners

- The Trust for Public Land
- Center for Civic Leadership, Rice University
- Houston Department of Health and Human Services
- Planning & Development Department
- Clark Condon
- Houston Parks Board
- Rice University Shell Center for Sustainability
- City of Houston Housing and Community Development
- Lone Star College
- University of St. Thomas

Changing Neighborhoods Through Parks
City of Houston Profile

- Population: 2,119,831
- Population Density: 5.03/acre
- Number of Parks: 370 Parks
- Acres of Park Land & Open Space: 37,859 acres
- 23 Acres/1,000 people
Community Input Process

- Provided information and solicited comments at 28 CIP meetings in 2014 and 2015
- Attended various community events soliciting input
- HPARD launched online survey in Spring 2014
- Rice University’s Center for Civic Leadership student team collected over 400 surveys to complement the 2014 online survey
- Informational displays were created and placed at City Hall and at all HPARD Community Centers
- Public outreach was conducted via HPARD website, Citizens Net, TV, Radio, Facebook, and Twitter
- Conducted a public presentation of methodology and findings on June 22, 2015, at The Museum of Fine Arts Houston Brown Auditorium
- A 30 day public comment period also followed the June 22nd presentation
METHODOLOGY: PARK SECTOR 17 PROFILE

Existing Conditions, Analysis, Opportunities
Park Sector 17 - Facts

Current Inventory
• 32 Parks = 97 Acres
• 0.6 acres of park land per 1,000 residents

Current and Future Population
• 60,000 residents in 2010
• 67,000 residents by 2040

Health Metrics
• 49% considered obese
• 26% diabetic as diagnosed by a professional
• 37% physically active
Park Sector 17
Needs Assessment

Park Land Needs
• Need 55 acres of park land (Pocket, Neighborhood and Community Parks)
• Need 19 additional acres of park land by 2040

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AMENITIES</th>
<th>Playgrounds</th>
<th>Picnic Shelters</th>
<th>Trails (miles)</th>
<th>Outdoor Basketball Courts</th>
<th>Tennis</th>
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<td>2015 Goal</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015 Existing</td>
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Rates park systems in the 75 largest U.S. cities
Also provides obesity and other demographic statistics
ParkScore® Identifies Need

Red & Orange = Areas of Park Need

**Minneapolis**: 95% served for a ten minute/one-half mile for each resident

**Houston**: 48% served for a ten minute/one-half mile for each resident
Cost Forecast to Meet Park Needs for Current and Future Residents (In Millions)

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Amenity Renovation</th>
<th>New Park Land</th>
<th>New Amenities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$295</td>
<td>$515</td>
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<td>2040</td>
<td>$760</td>
<td>$1,285</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>$1,055</td>
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Moving Forward

Acquire Land in High Need Areas Using The Trust for Public Land’s ParkScore® Tool:

- Partner for land acquisition and park improvement with community groups, TIRZs, City Departments, TPWD, Grants, County Commissioners, HCFCD, Non-Profits, Corporations and Foundations
- Target spending of Open Space Ordinance funds
- Pursue and direct future funds for land acquisition in underserved Park Sectors where there is no Open Space funding

Continue Partnering

- Complete Bayou Greenways 2020
- Extend trails to existing parks
- Create trails on utility corridors
- Add new SPARK Parks

Continue Building Upon Our Parks Master Plan

- Include HPARD Natural Resource Plan and Forestry Plan which are currently under development
The Trust for Public Land
Parkscore®
VISION: Turn the Map Green!
Thank you!

Parks and Recreation Department
Joe Turner, Director